# TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

**JANUARY, 2002**

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

Those of you who know me recognize that among my many shortcomings is my sense of direction. I have been mobile, within the city and had no idea where I was. With Dave, NB5EM monitoring the repeater I would give him the street name that I was on and he then would direct me back to an area that I was familiar with. It is obvious that Santa Claus is aware of my problem and guess what. He gave me a hand held GPS unit. When programmed properly the GPS unit has an arrow that points back to your home as you travel in any direction. I no longer have an excuse for getting lost. However, Dave, keep monitoring 91. I have not mastered this GPS just yet.

As always our club was active in a number of activities over the holidays. The scheduling of the TARC Christmas party and the Jaycees sponsored Christmas parade on the same evening really placed a burden on our club members who participated in both events. Hats off to those who came out to the parade staging area (Miracle City Mall) several hours before the parade to assist in getting the floats lined up for the parade. As soon as the parade started, like superman, these dedicated members dashed off to get dressed and head for Knights of Columbus for the Christmas party. The Jaycees are to be given a pat on the back. This year preparation and float line-up went smoother than ever before. Thanks, Shawn.

The Christmas party was one that will be remembered. Our thanks to Clara KE4YQL, Pike W4EPU and their team for putting on such an enjoyable program. Congratulations to Les K4SJC for being voted by his peers as the "Ham of the Year". This is the third time this guy has received this honor.

Thanks Stephanie K4MVO for chairing the judging of the Christmas "Parade of Lights" as presented by the Kennedy Yacht Club. That was fun!

We sadly announce the death of Charmaine Coffman K4EGV wife of Coffee Coffman W0LRC on December 24, 2001. And on the same date we lost Mona Skidmore KE4FFA wife of Skid KD4DOJ. Our condolences to Coffee and Skid and their families.

Hope to see you at the next club meeting on January 22 at 7:00 PM at the Jaycee building.

**NOW WHICH WAY IS HOME?**

## *HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!*

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

JAN. 3 KE4AGO BILL REALY
JAN. 7 KC2ENO ART SMITH
JAN. 8 WW4G BRIAN VAN ALSTINE
JAN. 9 KF4ECM JIM LATHROP
JAN. 12 KE4NYM MATT KELLER
JAN. 12 K4WSE JOHN WOOD
JAN. 20 KG4KVO ED WIRTH
JAN. 20 KE4TQZ SANDRA GREENWALD
JAN. 21 KE4MXF KAY JORDAN
JAN. 21 KT4SY EDDIE GASS
JAN. 22 KG4PJP ALAN DUNN
JAN. 23 KC4VIN CAROL RAMOS
JAN. 23 KD4GPF JOE MYERS
JAN. 26 K4SJC LES GRINER
JAN. 27 AD4FG WALT WILSON
JAN. 28 KF4VRR DONALD PATTEN
JAN. 28 WA4JWU ROGER VERBLE
JAN. 29 000000 ANTHONY SINI

### WASHINGTON WHISPERS
**From 1/1/02 W5YI Report**

Anti-virus customers are concerned that security product companies may be rigging their software to selectively overlook snooping software. In our last issue we reported on the FBI surveillance software code-named "Magic Lantern" which allows investigators to eavesdrop on all keystrokes made from targeted home or business computers. "Magic Lantern" is installed unknowingly by the targeted person in much the same way that viruses and "worms" are planted on computers. That is, users are tricked into opening a file that secretly installs an executable program. Sometimes just viewing a message is enough to install a file. The U.S. (Anti-Terrorist) *Patriot Act* passed in October makes it easier for the government to deploy "Magic Lantern."

In early December, the Associated Press reported that anti-virus companies (they specifically mentioned Network Associates' "McAfee") were working with the FBI so that their anti-virus software would not inadvertently tip off a targeted terrorist, criminal or foreign spy that their PC was the recipient of the government's "Magic Lantern" snooping software file.

Sumantec's "Norton" anti-virus products supposedly was also to conveniently "skip" the reporting of the existence of the FBI's "Magic Lantern" back door sniffer.

Security experts wondered if parties other than the FBI would now develop a program similar to the "Magic Lantern" back door which could remain undetected.

Look for hacker or off shore produced software to become available which can detect the existence of secretly-installed back doors by simply inspecting the code.

Be sure to listen to "The Spy in Your Computer" which is posted to this website:
<www.factsquad.org/radio>

**Effective October 18, 2001, the FCC will no longer accept hand or messenger delivered paper documents or filings at its headquarters location** at: 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. As of Monday, October 22, 1001 paper

documents addressed to the FCC must be hand or messenger delivered to the FCC's Capitol Heights facility located at 9300 E. Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

"The Commission is currently looking for an alternative site in Washington, DC, to accept delivery of fillings on a more permanent basis. We encourage our customers to make full use of the Commission's electronic filings systems to facilitate the filing of documents."

"Filings and other documents sent to the FCC by the Postal Service or overnight delivery services should continue to be addressed to the FCC at 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. The Commission itself will divert those deliveries to the Capitol Heights facility."

"The Commission finds it necessary at this time to make these changes to its procedures to protect the health and safety of its employees.

## AMATEUR RADIO NEWS
### From 1/1/02 W5YI Report

**Amateur Radio Trader**, a twice a month advertising magazine has discontinued publication. Editor Barbara Patterson KF4MVV, said the publication was "……..no longer a viable product for us" and that the firm was redirecting their resources to other areas. Their Web site at <www.amradiotrader.com> was also taken off line. Subscribers are being reimbursed for outstanding issues.

**Ducie Island in the South Pacific** is the latest DXCC entity, the 335th. Uninhabited Ducie island became eligible for DXCC credit effective November 16 as a result of a favorable vote to accept the Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association (PIARA) as an IARU member-society. Under DXCC rules, and entity hosted by an IARU society is considered a "political entity." Ducie Island, one of four islands in the Pitcairn group, is only about 2.5 square miles. High seas forced a cancellation of a DX-pedition that would have activated VP6DI on Ducie Island last month.

## CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY
### From 11/15/01 W5YI Report

**The State of Maryland is testing an electronic motor carrier-screening process.** The "E-Screening" system uses a pocket size transponder attached to a truck's windshield and sensors embedded in and alongside the road to automatically identify a truck, check a moving vehicle's weight, height, safety history and tax and registration status. Cleared vehicles are signaled to bypass the weigh station without stopping.

The project is part of the *Commercial Vehicle Information System and Network*….a national program to develop a 'paperless' system to deliver data from moving vehicles to roadside checkpoints, and between government agencies and commercial operations. CVISN must be deployed in a majority of states by Sept. 30, 2003.

**A Norwalk, Connecticut company has developed an electronic pain killer** for treating chronic, acute or post-surgical pain in the low back, shoulder, neck, knee, elbow and other extremities.

The Biowave device electronically blocks pain in the body using patent pending technology that generates a low frequency electric field in deep tissue, blocking the transmission of pain signals in the body. Clinical studies show that following a 20-minute treatment pain was reduced an average of 78 %. In addition, patients also had up to 24 hours of residual pain relief.

Biowave has a professional model for use in doctor's offices and a wearable cellphone-sized device for use by patients at home or work (available by prescription).

**Merconnet, a Montreal (Canada) firm has a "Magic-I-Key chain" that is a miniature databank.** The tag attached to a keyring is loaded by holding it next to your computer using a small digital camera that "reads" text on your screen.

You can download the names, phone numbers and birthdays (of up to 120 people), tell the time, date and language spoken in 100 world cities, use its calendar and alarm clock (with a musical reminder), a horoscope tells your fortune...even has a slot machine game to keep you busy on the plane. Key ring measures: 3.75" x 1.25". Cost is only $19. See it at: <www.mymagic-i.com>

## EMERGING COMMUNICATIONS
### From 11.15.01 W5YI Report

**The cable industry cites the work of rodents as the No. 1 cause of service interruptions.** Dow Chemical makes a fiber-optic cable, the jacket of which is laced with Caspian, the chemical that puts the "pow" in chili peppers, to protect the glass strands inside the cable from being chewed by squirrels and gophers.

**The launch of third-generation cellular networks are being delayed by around one year.** When it was first announced, companies said it should become operational by late 2001.

While a few cities in Japan have third generation service, it won't be widespread until late next year. Europe will get 3G in early 2003.

But it won't be until 2004 or 2005 before we see it here in the U. S. since 3G spectrum has yet to be nailed down. It is starting to look like either the 1710-1755 or the 2110-2150 MHz band will be home of U. S. 3G.

Japan's leading mobile telecom operator, NTT DoCoMo, launched the world's first third generation (3G) wireless mobile phone service last month. Users are able to surf the Internet with a fast connection and see real-time full-color video pictures of the people they are talking to. Handsets are expensive...$400 to $600 each.

Eventually 3G surfers will be able to watch movies and listen to music on their tiny screen handsets.

## AMATEUR RADIO

**Ham Radio in the News** - The Seattle Times ran a feature story on October 18 entitled "'Radio Ichiro' hits the air." It seems that Tom Owens K7RI (60, of West Seattle, WA) usually uses the phonetic "K7Radio Italy" to identify his station.

But during the American League playoffs he aimed his antenna toward Japan and switched to calling "CQ Japan from K7-Radio Ichiro." He got more than a dozen calls from Japanese ham operators where the Seattle Mariners right fielder, Ichiro Suzuki (and relief pitcher Kazuhiro Sasaki) are national heroes. The playoff games were carried live in Japan at 5 a.m. in the morning.

The Times story included: "A lot of us started in our 20s and are now in our 60s" said Owen, a certified financial planner whose radio-equipped den is also his office. "We don't see a lot of new people getting into it." He thinks that for many, the century-old charm of amateur radio has given way to the quick global reach of e-mail and the World Wide Web.

An October 12 nationally distributed news article by the Associated Press entitled **"Sales of Scanners, Radios Increase"** told how on "The day

of the Sept. 11 attacks, amateur radio operators were able to pick up transmissions among New York police, fire officials and dispatchers and listen in as the disaster unfolded."

## INTERNET UPDATE
### From 12/01 CyberSkip

**Pakistan News Service**
Why hear news that is heavily filtered through American mass media, when you can get stories straight from the source, in this case, Pakistan? As you can well imagine, most of the stories now at the Pakistan News Service site are about the U. S. war with the Taliban in neighboring Afghanistan, and the reports offer detail not found in American media. Created in 1991 by a Pakistani computer scientist, the service has a network of journalists in Pakistan who produce daily news coverage; many of these stories that would not otherwise reach the West. This completely online publication is a non-partisan, non-political independent news and information service, according to its organizers: World Wide Web: **http://paknews.com**

## NEW CODE TEST: BRAVO!
### From 1/02 QST Correspondence

I certainly was skeptical when the FCC announced the code speed reduction to 5 words per minute for all classes of licensed hams. As a Volunteer Examiner for the last 10 years, I thought the latest changes would bring large amounts of applicants, and passing the code exam certainly looked as if it would be a piece of cake!
I must applaud the changes from the old system of maybe copying 25 characters in a row, then taking a 10 question quiz as an alternative. Although the code speed has dwindled to 5 words per minute, the idea is comprehension of the message being sent. Filling in the blank with the precise answer, correctly spelled and copied, is indeed a vast improvement.
We should have used this method long before we did, instead of the guesswork method employed in the past and perhaps lucky guesses on the part of the applicants.
Some were still under the false impression they could scribble down an indecipherable mess, stare at it for 20 minutes or longer and then by some miracle guess the right answers. The code test as it is now provides all the characters of the alphabet, use of numbers, slash bars, rigs, model numbers of radios and power levels of the transmitter - standard information of all ham QSOs, yet you must get it right to pass the exam!
My congratulations to the person or persons who designed the new exam - they were thinking in the right direction. Perhaps one in 10 will pass the new exam, but one day that person will come into the exam room, sit down and copy the message in its entirety. That will bring a smile to my face and I will feel good once again that a truly dedicated and proud person left the exam room.
*William L. Hilyerd, K4LRX, Henderson, Ky.*

**From January 1965 *QST***

## ABELL'S ANECDOTES
**By Pike Abell W4EPU**

YET ANOTHER ANIMAL STORY! THIS IS A STORY ABOUT A RAT - A VERY SMART BUT STUPID RAT:

It has been said that dogs have a sense of smell 2000 times as powerful as that of human beings. But then, alligators' sense of smell is reportedly hundreds of times as strong as that of dogs. Whether or not any studies have been made regarding rats' ability to smell things I do not know. As you read on perhaps you may be as convinced as I am that the smelling or other powers of rats is nothing to be sneezed at (no pun intended). I shall explain.

I have two bird feeders in the back yard. In one I stock small seeds, milo, etc. for small birds. For larger birds I supply the other one with relatively large, sunflower seeds and corn. In the beginning, I simply left the extra seeds in their original bags and stored them on our screened back porch. One morning I discovered that something had chewed holes in the porch screen and the bird seed bags and scattered seeds and hulls all over. I left everything as it was and set traps on the porch near the bags of bird seeds. In two nights I caught three rats. I left the traps for several days but caught no more. Convinced that I had caught all of the culprits, I cleaned up the mess and patched the holes in the screen.

I purchased a new 20 gallon trash can, placed the seeds inside and secured the lid in place. I then moved the closed can containing the seeds into a spare room inside the house. (The window of that room which has bars and screen for security protection opens onto the screened porch. Because of other stuff stored in the room we leave the window open to freshen the air.)

A few days later I entered the room to retrieve some bird seeds. There was a pile of sunflower seed hulls near the can of seeds. A hole had been gnawed through the wall of the can near the bottom. I also found a hole in the window screen, as well as a new hole in the porch screen, through which the rat(s) had obviously gained entrance. I again set traps. This time in the room near the can. I caught only one rat. Apparently it had acted alone.

In review picture this: Inside a room, several feed t from an open window is a 20 gallon plastic container in which there are two bags of seeds. The lid is securely in place. The window is inside a screened porch. A rat out in the yard was able to determine, not only the location of the seeds, but the route it must take to gain access to same.

The whole amazing feat brings to mind a couple of serious questions. Was it the rat's great sense of smell that led it to the can of seeds? Or does that rat, indeed other animals, have senses other than the five senses we human animals have?

In conclusion, even though that rat had knowledge, instinct, sixth senses, smelling power, or whatever it took to find and gain access to the seeds, it was still too stupid to figure out and avoid the dangers of a lethal rat trap. 73s es 88s

## DECEMBER MINUTES
**By Becky Lee, KF4HTB**

The club Christmas party was held at the Knights of Columbus. Approximately 78 members and guests attended. Clara KE4YQL and Pike W4EPU once again outdid themselves in pulling it all together and making it a happy and enjoyable time for all. The food was good. Everyone enjoyed singing along to the Christmas music of Harmonica Bill W3SDB. A very funny skit featured Pike W4EPU and Pat KF4LTY. The awards were presented. The 2002 officers were installed. Gifts were exchanged with the help of Santa Anthony KG4CEB and his elves. Our club is certainly blessed with talented people.

**AVOID THE LINES**

**AT THE**
**ORLANDO HAMFEST**
**FEBRUARY 9 & 10**

**We have ordered a limited number of advanced sale tickets for this event. These will be available at the January club meeting for $7.00 ($9.00 at the gate). Please have exact change to purchase your tickets. We also have reserved a table for club members to meet and sell their surplus gear. For tickets contact Clyde Lee K4EOS at 267-9375**

## TREASURERS REPORT
**By Becky Lee, KF4HTB**

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|---|---|
| Balance forward from 2000 | $4324.14 |
| Deposits Year to Date | 5450.35 |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | **$9774.49** |
| Expenditures | 5215.50 |
| **BALANCE AS AT 12/31/01** | **$4558.99** |

## CLUB OFFICERS
**President:** Bud Hughes, K4CWG. 269-0779
**V.Pres:** Ozzie Osband, N4SCY. 321-LIFTOFF
**Sec/Treas:** Becky Lee, KF4HTB, 267-9375

## ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS
Pat Renninger, KF4LTY. 267-9431
John Renninger, KE4ZPA. 267-9431
Ralph Hall AE4LE
Sherry Hughes, KU4ZO. 269-0779

## REPEATER CUSTODIAN BOARD MEMBERS
Les Griner, K4SJC (146.91) 267-1565
Warren Murray, W4CEL (146.97) 638-5476
Dave McLean, WB4SIG (444.15) 267-6181
Larry Carr, WB9MFJ (Packet-Rose Node) 268-4114

## CLUB INFORMATION

**Meetings:** Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs. at Jaycee Building

**Newsletter Editors:** KF4HTB Becky Lee
K4EOS Clyde Lee

**Nets:** **VIP**-Thursdays at 1000 hrs. 146.910
**Friendship**-Thursdays at 1830 hrs. 146.910
**Mosquito**-Wednesdays at 1900 hrs. 28.333
**Traders**-Mondays at 2000 hrs 146.910

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

**OUR HOPE FOR THE NEW YEAR**
**PEACE AND JUSTICE**

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 220 (151 regular, 51 family, 12 honorary, 6 other)

**NEW MEMBERS:** None
**RENEWALS:**
KF4BKY JOE HUSSON
WA9ERC WILLIAM KNOPP
KA9IFK HELEN KNOPP
KD4GPF JOE MYERS
AA4HP HANK PHILLIPS
K4MVO STEPHANIE PHILLIPS
WD8JLT BRIAN SONNENBERG
K4KON BRUCE HOOVER
KK4SH VINCE GONZALEZ
KE4MXC JEAN GONZALEZ
KC4SYD CLIFF HOAG
N6USP BOBBY JONES
KF4VRQ MARVIN THORPE

**HAMFESTS**: 01/12 FT. MYERS\
01/19-20 SARASOTA
01/26 ARCADIA
02/2-3 MIAMI
02/9-10 ORLANDO
02/16 SEBRING
02/24 ZEPHYRHILLS
03/2 NEW PORT RICHEY
03/2 LANTANA
03/9 PORT CHARLOTTE
03/16 STUART
03/16 FT.WALTON BEACH
03/23 SUNRISE
04/20 TAMPA
04/20 CORAL GABLES
04/27 GAINESVILLE